

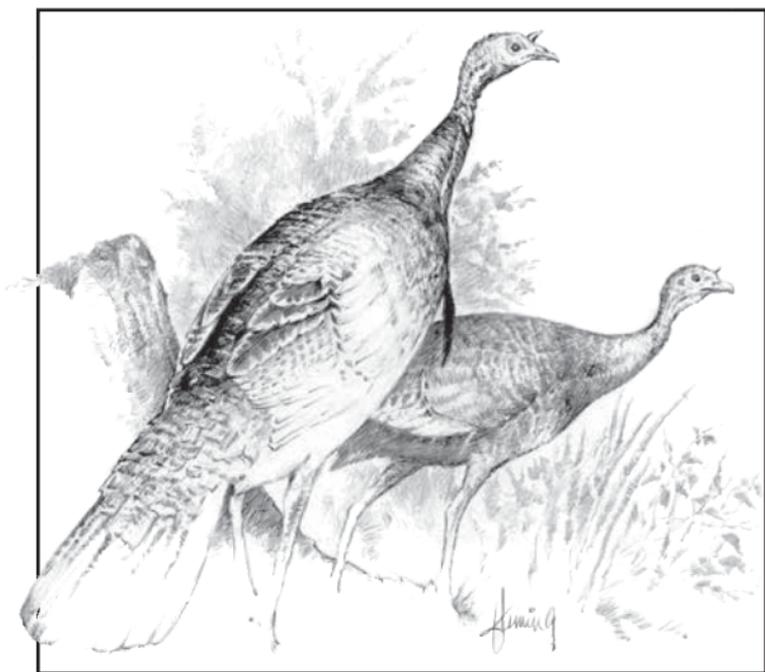
TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

# BIRDS

OF

## SOUTH LLANO RIVER

S T A T E P A R K



A FIELD CHECKLIST

2019



# INTRODUCTION

South Llano River State Park, a 2,630-acre tract in Kimble County, Texas, lies on the west central Edwards Plateau. The clear, usually placid South Llano River courses through the tract. Bottomlands of the South Llano support a local forest of pecan, elm, oak and sycamore that shelters a significant winter roost for the Rio Grande subspecies of Wild Turkey.

Canyons on the escarpment support diverse deciduous woodlands of hackberry, persimmon, walnut, and several species of oak including Live Oak, Shin Oak, Spanish Oak, Lacey Oak and some Chinquapin Oak. Ashe juniper and oak woodlands cover the canyon slopes. Mesquite and succulents are more common in the lowland areas.

Birdlife is characteristic of the canyons of the Edwards Plateau with numerous typically western, "arid-land species" present. Woodlands and gallery forests, particularly along the South Llano River, are excellent habitats in which to observe migrants.

Green Kingfishers and occasionally Black Phoebes can be seen foraging along the clear river. Ringed Kingfishers, though uncommon, can also be viewed by canoeing or kayaking mainly downstream from the park. Black-capped Vireos are usually found just inside the mouths of the canyons or in some of the higher elevations of the park. Hike the Fawn Trail in spring/early summer for this species. The Golden-cheeked Warbler nests in canyons with mature juniper mixed with hardwoods and is frequently observed in early spring. Zone-tailed Hawks can sometimes be observed soaring along the river corridor both above and below the park. The park bird blinds are an excellent place to see species such as Painted Bunting, Black-throated Sparrow, and Spotted Towhee. During the warmer months the Vermilion Flycatcher is a regular around the park headquarters complex, day use area and along the high fence on the entrance road. Wild Turkey can be seen foraging in the park lowlands and backcountry throughout the year.

To provide maximum protection for the winter Wild Turkey roost, access to the park's day use area is restricted from October 1 through March 31 to the hours of 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Specific details can be obtained by calling South Llano River State Park can be obtained by calling the park at (325) 446-3994.

This checklist was originally compiled by Dr. Nick Jackson, formerly of Junction, and represented observations in the area since 1980. It included 5 years worth of records contributed by C.C. and Iris Wiedenfeld, formerly of San Angelo. Since 2004 the checklist was compiled by Rhandy J. Helton and Ann Lemon of Junction and this edition was updated by Rhandy Helton and Holly Platz. A revision of this checklist would not have been possible without the contributions and observations provided by park birding hosts Bill and Rosita Shane. Nomenclature and organization for this checklist follow the 7th edition of the A.O.S. Check-list of North American Birds as currently supplemented.

Please report any new or unusual observations to the state park headquarters. For additional help with finding birds in this area contact the park or the checklist compilers.

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*Please help us protect the natural avian communities in our parks by refraining from using playback tapes of bird songs. Frequent use of these tapes disrupts normal avian activity patterns, including essential territorial behavior, and may lead to nest failure. Thank you for your cooperation.*

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## LEGEND

### **Abundance (in suitable habitat)**

- A Abundant (many should be seen or heard)
- C Common (should always be seen or heard)
- U Uncommon (might be seen or heard but not always)
- R Rare (seldom seen or heard but regular visitor or resident)
- VR Very Rare (irregular, not seen or heard every year, few records)

### **Seasons**

- SPG Spring (March, April, May)
- SUM Summer (June, July, August)
- FAL Fall (September, October, November)
- WIN Winter (December, January, February)

# CHECKLIST

	<u>SPR</u>	<u>SUM</u>	<u>FAL</u>	<u>WIN</u>
<b>Ducks, Geese, and Swans</b>				
___ Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	R	R		
___ Snow Goose			VR	
___ Wood Duck	U	U	U	U
___ Gadwall	U		U	U
___ American Wigeon	U		U	U
___ Mallard	U		U	U
___ Blue-winged Teal	U		U	U
___ Northern Shoveler	U		U	U
___ Northern Pintail	R		R	R
___ Green-winged Teal	U		U	U
___ Ring-necked Duck	R		R	R
___ Lesser Scaup			R	U
___ Bufflehead	R		R	
___ Ruddy Duck	R		R	R
<b>New World Quail</b>				
___ Northern Bobwhite	U	U	U	U
<b>Partridges and Turkeys</b>				
___ Wild Turkey	C	C	C	C
<b>Grebes</b>				
___ Least Grebe			VR	
___ Pied-billed Grebe	U		U	U
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>				
___ Rock Pigeon	U	U	U	U
___ Eurasian Collared-Dove	U	U	U	U

	SPR	SUM	FAL	WIN
__ Inca Dove	C	C	C	C
__ Common Ground-Dove	U	U	U	U
__ White-tipped Dove	VR			
__ White-winged Dove	A	A	A	A
__ Mourning Dove	C	C	C	U
<b>Cuckoos and Roadrunners</b>				
__ Yellow-billed Cuckoo	C	C	U	
__ Greater Roadrunner	U	U	U	U
<b>Goatsuckers</b>				
__ Lesser Nighthawk	R	R		
__ Common Nighthawk	U	C	U	R
__ Common Poorwill	C	C	U	R
__ Chuck-will's-widow	C	C	R	
__ Eastern Whip-poor-will	VR			
<b>Swifts</b>				
__ Chimney Swift	U	C	U	
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
__ Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	U	C	
__ Black-chinned Hummingbird	C	C	C	
__ Broad-tailed Hummingbird	VR		VR	
__ Rufous Hummingbird	R	VR	R	
__ Calliope Hummingbird	VR			
<b>Rails, Gallinules, and Coots</b>				
__ American Coot	R		R	R
<b>Cranes</b>				
__ Sandhill Crane	U		U	

	SPR	SUM	FAL	WIN
<b>Stilts and Avocets</b>				
___ American Avocet	R		R	
<b>Plovers</b>				
___ Killdeer	U	U	U	
<b>Sandpipers</b>				
___ Upland Sandpiper	R		R	
___ Long-billed Curlew	VR		VR	
___ Least Sandpiper	R			
___ Wilson's Snipe			R	R
___ Spotted Sandpiper	U	U	U	R
___ Solitary Sandpiper	R		U	
<b>Gulls and Terns</b>				
___ Ring-billed Gull	VR			
<b>Loons</b>				
___ Common Loon	VR			
<b>Cormorants</b>				
___ Neotropic Cormorant	VR			VR
___ Double-crested Cormorant	U		U	U
<b>Bitterns, Herons, and Allies</b>				
___ Great Blue Heron	U	U	U	U
___ Great Egret	U	U		
___ Little Blue Heron		VR		
___ Reddish Egret			VR	
___ Cattle Egret	R	R		
___ Green Heron	U	U	U	
___ Black-crowned Night Heron		VR		
___ Yellow-crowned Night Heron		R	R	

**Ibises and Spoonbills**

\_\_\_ White-faced Ibis R

**New World Vultures**

\_\_\_ Turkey Vulture A    A    C    R

\_\_\_ Black Vulture A    A    C    C

**Osprey**

\_\_\_ Osprey U    R    U    U

**Hawks, Kites, and Eagles**

\_\_\_ Golden Eagle R                    R    R

\_\_\_ Northern Harrier                           R    R

\_\_\_ Sharp-shinned Hawk U    R    U    U

\_\_\_ Cooper's Hawk U    U    U    U

\_\_\_ Bald Eagle R                    R    R

\_\_\_ Mississippi Kite R    R    U

\_\_\_ Common Black Hawk VR    VR

\_\_\_ Red-shouldered Hawk C    C    U    U

\_\_\_ Broad-winged Hawk R                    R

\_\_\_ Swainson's Hawk U    R    U    VR

\_\_\_ Zone-tailed Hawk U    U    U

\_\_\_ Red-tailed Hawk C    C    C    C

**Typical Owls**

\_\_\_ Western Screech-Owl VR    VR    VR    VR

\_\_\_ Eastern Screech-Owl U    C    U    U

\_\_\_ Great Horned Owl C    C    C    C

\_\_\_ Barred Owl VR

**Kingfishers**

\_\_\_ Ringed Kingfisher U    U    U    U

	<b>SPR</b>	<b>SUM</b>	<b>FAL</b>	<b>WIN</b>
___ Belted Kingfisher	C	U	C	C
___ Green Kingfisher	C	C	C	U
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
___ Lewis's Woodpecker	VR			VR
___ Red-headed Woodpecker	VR		VR	VR
___ Acorn Woodpecker	VR		VR	VR
___ Golden-fronted Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			U	U
___ Red-naped Sapsucker			VR	VR
___ Ladder-backed Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
___ Downy Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
___ Northern Flicker			U	U
<b>Caracaras and Falcons</b>				
___ Crested Caracara	U	U	U	U
___ American Kestrel	U		C	C
___ Merlin	R		R	R
___ Peregrine Falcon	R		R	
___ Prairie Falcon				VR
<b>Flycatchers</b>				
___ Ash-throated Flycatcher	C	C	U	VR
___ Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	U	
___ Brown-crested Flycatcher	C	C		
___ Piratic Flycatcher			VR	
___ Couch's Kingbird		VR	VR	
___ Cassin's Kingbird		R		
___ Western Kingbird	U	U	U	VR
___ Eastern Kingbird	R	R	U	

	SPR	SUM	FAL	WIN
___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	C	C	C	
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	U		U	
___ Western Wood Pewee	VR			
___ Eastern Wood Pewee	C	C	U	
___ Acadian Flycatcher	U	U	R	
___ Alder Flycatcher	R			
___ Willow Flycatcher	R		R	
___ Least Flycatcher	U		U	
___ Cordilleran Flycatcher			VR	
___ Black Phoebe	U	U	U	U
___ Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C	C
___ Say's Phoebe	U		U	R
___ Vermilion Flycatcher	C	C	C	U
<b>Shrikes</b>				
___ Loggerhead Shrike	R	R	U	U
<b>Vireos</b>				
___ Black-capped Vireo	C	C	U	
___ White-eyed Vireo	C	C	C	R
___ Bell's Vireo	C	A	U	
___ Hutton's Vireo	U	U	U	R
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	C	C	U	
___ Blue-headed Vireo	U		U	R
___ Philadelphia Vireo	VR			
___ Warbling Vireo	U		U	
___ Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	U	

	SPR	SUM	FAL	WIN
<b>Jays, Ravens, and Crows</b>				
___ Blue Jay	R	R	R	R
___ Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay	C	C	C	C
___ Chihuahuan Raven	R		R	
___ Common Raven	C	C	C	C
<b>Larks</b>				
___ Horned Lark	VR			
<b>Swallows</b>				
___ Purple Martin	C	C	R	
___ Tree Swallow	R		R	
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	U	
___ Bank Swallow	R	R	R	
___ Cliff Swallow	C	C	U	
___ Cave Swallow	C	C	C	
___ Barn Swallow	C	C	U	
<b>Chickadees and Titmice</b>				
___ Carolina Chickadee	C	C	C	C
___ Black-crested Titmouse	A	A	A	A
<b>Verdins</b>				
___ Verdin	C	C	C	C
<b>Bushtits</b>				
___ Bushtit	U	U	U	R
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch			VR	VR
<b>Creepers</b>				
___ Brown Creeper			U	U

	SPR	SUM	FAL	WIN
<b>Wrens</b>				
___ Rock Wren	R	R	R	R
___ Canyon Wren	C	C	U	U
___ House Wren	U		U	U
___ Winter Wren				R
___ Marsh Wren	R	R	R	R
___ Carolina Wren	C	C	C	C
___ Bewick's Wren	C	C	C	C
___ Cactus Wren	VR	VR	VR	VR
<b>Gnatcatchers</b>				
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C	A	C	R
___ Black-tailed Gnatcatcher	VR			
<b>Kinglets</b>				
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	R		U	U
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U		C	C
<b>Thrushes</b>				
___ Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	C
___ Western Bluebird				R
___ Mountain Bluebird			R	R
___ Townsend's Solitaire	VR			VR
___ Swainson's Thrush	U		U	
___ Hermit Thrush	C		C	C
___ American Robin	C	R	U	C
<b>Mockingbirds and Thrashers</b>				
___ Gray Catbird	R		R	
___ Curve-billed Thrasher	R	R	R	R
___ Brown Thrasher	U		U	U

	SPR	SUM	FAL	WIN
___ Long-billed Thrasher			R	R
___ Sage Thrasher			VR	VR
___ Northern Mockingbird	C	C	C	C
<b>Starlings</b>				
___ European Starling	R	R	R	R
<b>Waxwings</b>				
___ Cedar Waxwing	C		U	C
<b>Silky-flycatchers</b>				
___ Phainopepla			VR	VR
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>				
___ House Sparrow	C	C	C	C
<b>Wagtails and Pipits</b>				
___ American Pipit	U		U	U
___ Sprague's Pipit			R	
<b>Finches and Allies</b>				
___ House Finch	A	A	A	A
___ Purple Finch				VR
___ Cassin's Finch				VR
___ Red Crossbill			VR	VR
___ Pine Siskin	U		C	C
___ Lesser Goldfinch	C	C	C	U
___ American Goldfinch	U		U	C
<b>Longspurs</b>				
___ Chestnut-collared Longspur	VR			
<b>Towhees and Sparrows</b>				
___ Olive Sparrow	R	R		
___ Green-tailed Towhee	R		R	R

	SPR	SUM	FAL	WIN
___ Spotted Towhee	C		C	C
___ Eastern Towhee	VR			
___ Rufous-crowned Sparrow	C	C	C	C
___ Canyon Towhee	C	C	C	C
___ Cassin's Sparrow	U	U	U	R
___ Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C	C
___ Clay-colored Sparrow	C		C	R
___ Brewer's Sparrow			VR	
___ Field Sparrow	C	C	C	C
___ Vesper Sparrow	U		U	U
___ Lark Sparrow	C	A	C	R
___ Black-throated Sparrow	C	C	C	C
___ Lark Bunting	R		R	R
___ Savannah Sparrow	U		U	U
___ Grasshopper Sparrow	U		U	
___ LeConte's Sparrow	VR			
___ Fox Sparrow	U		U	U
___ Song Sparrow	C		C	C
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	C		C	C
___ Swamp Sparrow	R		R	R
___ White-throated Sparrow	U		U	U
___ Harris's Sparrow	R		R	R
___ White-crowned Sparrow	C		C	C
___ Dark-eyed Junco	U		U	U
<b>Chats</b>				
___ Yellow-breasted Chat	C	C	U	

**Blackbirds, Meadowlarks, and Orioles**

___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	R		R	
___ Eastern Meadowlark	R	R	R	R
___ Western Meadowlark	U		U	C
___ Orchard Oriole	C	C	U	
___ Hooded Oriole	VR			
___ Bullock's Oriole	U	U	U	
___ Audubon's Oriole	VR			
___ Baltimore Oriole	R	R	U	
___ Scott's Oriole	C	C	U	
___ Red-winged Blackbird	U	C	U	
___ Bronzed Cowbird	U	U	U	
___ Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	C	
___ Brewer's Blackbird			R	R
___ Common Grackle	R	R		
___ Great-tailed Grackle	U	U	U	

**Wood Warblers**

___ Ovenbird	R			
___ Louisiana Waterthrush	R	R		
___ Northern Waterthrush	R		R	
___ Golden-winged Warbler	R			
___ Black-and-white Warbler	C	C	U	R
___ Prothonotary Warbler	R			
___ Tennessee Warbler	R			
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	C		C	C
___ Nashville Warbler	C		C	R
___ Virginia's Warbler	VR			

	<b>SPR</b>	<b>SUM</b>	<b>FAL</b>	<b>WIN</b>
___ MacGillivray's Warbler	U		U	
___ Mourning Warbler	R		R	
___ Kentucky Warbler	VR			
___ Common Yellowthroat	U	R	U	U
___ Hooded Warbler	R			
___ American Redstart	R		R	
___ Cape May Warbler	VR			
___ Northern Parula	R			
___ Magnolia Warbler	VR			
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	VR			
___ Blackburnian Warbler	R			
___ Yellow Warbler	C	R	C	
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	R			
___ Blackpoll Warbler	VR			
___ Pine Warbler			R	R
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	A
___ Yellow-throated Warbler	C	C	U	
___ Black-throated Gray Warbler			R	
___ Golden-cheeked Warbler	C	U		
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U	
___ Townsend's Warbler			VR	
___ Canada Warbler	VR			
___ Wilson's Warbler	C		C	

**Cardinals, Tanagers, Grosbeaks, and Buntings**

___ Summer Tanager	C	C	C	
___ Scarlet Tanager	VR			
___ Western Tanager	R		R	
___ Northern Cardinal	A	A	A	A
___ Pyrrhuloxia	U	U	U	U
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	R		R	
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	R		R	
___ Blue Grosbeak	C	C	U	
___ Lazuli Bunting	R		R	
___ Indigo Bunting	C	C	U	
___ Varied Bunting	VR	VR		
___ Painted Bunting	A	A	U	
___ Dickcissel	U	R	U	

# CITATION

Helton, Rhandy and Platz, Holly. January 2019. Birds of South Llano River State Park: a field checklist. Natural Resource Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Austin.

*Cover: Illustration of turkey by Rob Fleming.*

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Natural Resources Program  
Texas Parks and Wildlife  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, Texas 78744